



ANNUAL REPORT 2018

# HOWICK YOUTH COUNCIL

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Prepared by the Howick Youth Council

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# About

The Howick Youth Council operates under the Howick Local Board to ensure youth voices are heard in the decisions that shape our city.

We are a collection of passionate individuals striving to make Howick, Botany, Ormiston, and Pakuranga an attractive and vibrant place for youth.

We seek to empower youth to bring about a positive influence in our community and represent their voices to inspire change.

# Mission & Vision

**Represent. Develop. Connect.**

That the Howick Youth Council **represents** youth voices in initiating changes in our community.

That the Howick Youth Council facilitates opportunities for all youth in the community to **develop**.

That the Howick Youth Council creates **connections** in our diverse community.



# A Year Unlike Any Other

## A word from Zachary Wong and Andrew Scott

2018 Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Howick Youth Council

It has been a privilege this year to lead the Howick Youth Council, a group of highly motivated young people seeking to make a difference in their community. We hope that through our projects and initiatives we have helped connect youth within their community, given them the skills and inspiration to chart their future, provided them with opportunities to express themselves through arts and culture, and raised awareness of issues to do with health and wellbeing.

An even greater privilege for the youth council this year has been to represent the voices of the more than 20,000 young people that call the Howick Local Board area home. Being a voice for young people on local, regional, and national decisions is the most important responsibility we have to our community. This year, we presented 34 recommendations crafted



by over 100 young people that outline the changes youth want to see happen in our community to the Local Board. This document is a powerful expression of young people's aspirations and we look forward to seeing these recommendations brought to life.

We must thank all those who made our amazing 2018 possible. Thank you to each and every member for their hard work and dedication in bringing their projects to life. In total, 465 people attended our events this year. Thank you to the Howick Local Board for their continued commitment to youth voices in Howick. Finally, a special thanks to Asma and Devon for their tireless support of our work.

Many thanks,  
Zac and Andrew



# 2018 Focus Areas

Youth feel connected within their community.

Youth are prepared for their futures.

Youth are connected through art and culture.

Youth involvement and community awareness of health and wellbeing.



# 2018 Projects & Actions

**Total event attendance: 465**

## Projects delivered

- Howick Youth Summit
- Principals' Breakfast
- Beach Clean-Up
- Dog Walk
- Jump the Jam Away
- Online By-election Campaign
- By-election Candidates' Forum
- How To Life
- First Aid Event
- Visual Arts Showcase
- Performing Arts Showcase
- Auckland Youth Voice Meet-Up
- Annual Review

## Other activities

- Submission on the Auckland Long-Term Plan
- Advocating and Supporting the Bus Network Petition
- Supporting MYRIVR
- Youth Space Advocacy
- Attending two Auckland Youth Voice Meet-Ups
- Supporting the Highbrook Fun Run

## Projects in progress

- Youth Survey
- Supporting the Howick Santa Parade



# Leadership Team

Zachary Wong, Andrew Scott, Shuyi Wang, Andrew Chen, Veisia Maka, Irra Lee, and Aimee Mackenzie

## Principals' Breakfast

Focus area: Youth feel connected within their community

The goal of the principals' breakfast was to build our connection with the senior leaders of Howick's secondary schools to enable the Howick Youth Council to be active within our schools.

Hosted at Te Tuhi Arts Centre, the principals' breakfast allowed us to share the mission and purpose of the Howick Youth Council with the representatives of all 9 schools in Howick and to build support for our events throughout the year.

People engaged: 32, including 9 senior school leaders

## Auckland Youth Voice Meet-Up

The Auckland Youth Voice Network is a collection of Auckland's youth voice groups. The aim of the collective is to connect, support, and empower each other through collaboration to be more effective in our communities.

The Howick Youth Council hosted the inaugural meeting of the Auckland Youth Voice Network, bringing together members from the Howick, Manurewa, Papakura, Otara-Papatoetoe and Puketapapa local board areas. Those attending the event connected with each other, shared ideas, and upskilled in a leadership workshop.

People engaged: 35 members from 5 youth voice groups



Principals' Breakfast



Auckland Youth Voice Meet-Up



## Advocacy and Support of the Bus Network Petition

Focus area: Youth feel connected within their community

The goal of our support of the bus network petition was to ensure Howick's young people have an effective means of public transportation and to ensure their voices are heard.

A petition launched by Khorshed Tarapore, a University of Auckland student, received 1,591 signatures. The petition advocated for changes to restore some direct services lost in the new network changes. Veisia Maka, Howick's Youth Advisory Panel representative, facilitated workshops with Khorshed to seek community feedback and then presented this petition to the Howick Local Board.

Members of the Howick Youth Council and Khorshed met with the Deputy Mayor and senior representatives from Auckland Transport including Mark Lambert, the Executive General Manager Integrated Networks, in order to present the petition. Auckland Transport committed to reviewing the concerns and seeing what service changes could be made in the Howick area and to the Panmure Interchange.



## Howick By-election Candidates' Forum

Focus area: Youth feel connected within their community

Our goal was to get voters in Howick interested in the by-election. We wanted to give the community a chance to hold the by-election candidates to account in a public forum to facilitate informed voting decisions.

We hosted the by-election forum at Uxbridge Arts and Culture, where 55 members of the public heard the candidates' positions on a number of topics. These topics included youth opportunities, transport, mental health, and rates.

To achieve our goal of making the by-election accessible and interesting to all, we introduced video questions from youth for candidates to answer, interactive real-time polling via smartphone, and live-streamed the event on social media.

People engaged: 55, with an additional 1,000 views on social media



# Communications Team

Irra Lee (team lead) and Aimee Mackenzie

## News Coverage

In addition to supporting the youth council's teams to promote their events, our goal was to increase the Howick Youth Council's presence. We knew the greater the number of people aware of the youth council's work, the better we could represent and serve the community.

We sought the help of local and regional media to cover our events throughout the year, including our advocacy regarding East Auckland's bus networks, the presenting of the Howick Youth Summit report to Howick Local Board, the Howick by-election forum, and our online by-election campaign.

Outcomes: News articles about the Howick Youth Council in the Times, Eastern Courier, Fairfax community papers across the region, [stuff.co.nz](http://stuff.co.nz), and [nzherald.co.nz](http://nzherald.co.nz)

## Howick By-election Online Campaign

Focus area: Youth feel connected within their community

With the by-election to elect a new Auckland councillor for Howick, we wanted to make information accessible to pique voters' interest about the running candidates. This would help youth feel connected to the happenings in their community. We worked in partnership with Howick's Youth Advisory Panel representative and local videographers to shoot a four-part video series explaining the by-election process and encouraging young voters to have their say. The series sparked engagement from both new and more experienced voters.

We also focused on creating bite-sized visual content for social media to allow voters an at-a-glance look at the policies candidates wanted to advocate for if elected.

People engaged: 8,704 views on social media, and 818 likes, shares, and comments





Presenting the Youth Summit Report



Howick By-election Candidates' Forum



Howick By-election Online Campaign



# Team 1

Ben Fraser (team lead), Henry Lockhart, Caitlyn Lambert, and Meggy Laguda

## Youth Summit

Focus area: Youth feel connected within their community, youth are prepared for their futures, youth are connected through art, youth involvement and community awareness of health and wellbeing

Our goal for the 2018 youth summit was to create a document containing the aspirations and concerns of young people in Howick, for Howick. The document, presented to the Howick Local Board and to schools, covered a number of topics: the environment, transport, equity, mental and physical well-being, and civic participation. The Howick Youth Council plans to use the document to guide our activities in 2019.

The summit, held at Te Tuhi, brought together over 100 young change-makers from across all 9 secondary schools in the Howick Local Board area.

People engaged: 105

## How to Life

Focus area: Youth are prepared for their futures

Our goal for the How to Life workshop was to address the gaps youth identified in regards to their future, such as planning for their careers and managing their money.

We partnered with a number of organisations and community leaders — Westpac, Careers NZ, Bilal Nasier, and Lillian Grace — to deliver a presentation at Macleans College to 32 youth from various schools in the Howick Local Board area.

People engaged: 32



Youth Summit



How to Life

# Team 2

Sophie Sun (team lead), Marcus Widvey, Anagh Mane, Caitlin Puffy, and Anton Mahoney

## Dog Walk

Focus area: Youth involvement and community awareness of health and wellbeing

Our goal of this project was to get youth involved within the community through their pets. We identified dog walking as a fun and effective way to encourage exercise and wellbeing.

A group of 19 pet enthusiasts walked a circuit around Macleans Park. The day ended with a BBQ for participants and dog treats for their pets to give participants an opportunity to bond over their shared experiences.

People engaged: 19 and a number of dogs

## East Auckland Visual Arts Showcase

Focus area: Youth are connected through art and culture, youth are prepared for their futures

Our goal was to celebrate the work and success of young artists in the community and help them become connected to future artistic opportunities.

Uxbridge Arts and Culture hosted the week-long East Auckland Visual Arts Showcase, allowing young people to exhibit their works to the wider community.

The artists had the opportunity to network with the judges and top arts lecturers: Lisa Crowley, Senior Lecturer at the Elam School of Fine Arts, and Matt Ellwood, HOD Fine Arts at Whitecliffe College of Arts & Design.

People engaged: 26

## East Auckland Performing Arts Showcase

Focus area: Youth are connected through art and culture, youth are prepared for their futures

Whether it be dance, drama, or music, our goal for the East Auckland Performing Arts Showcase was to provide a platform for Howick's upcoming stars to showcase their talents to the community.

The performing arts evening was hosted in Te Tuhi's auditorium, with a 51-strong turnout from the community. We had performances from both groups and individuals from a wide spectrum of performing arts genres — including acoustic performances, expressive dance, and opera.

People engaged: 51









East Auckland Performing Arts Showcase



# Team 3

Jack Collins (team lead), Mikayla Metcalfe, Inka Pleiss, Sarisha Claassen, and Dana Watene

## Beach Clean-Up

Focus area: Youth feel connected within their community

Our goal was to foster connections amongst like-minded young people to make a positive difference to the environment of Eastern Beach. We wanted to make the event accessible for youth so as to encourage their future involvement in similar activities.

A group of 20 youth and their families spent an afternoon cleaning the span of the beach, ending with a BBQ to give attendees a chance to connect with peers from various schools across the Howick Local Board area. We were fortunate enough to partner with Sustainable Coastlines who provided resources for the event.

People engaged: 20

## Jump the Jam Away

Focus area: Youth feel connected within their community, youth involvement and community awareness of health and wellbeing

We wanted to bring a diverse range of Howick youth together for a fun-filled night, as well as promote positive health and well-being through exercise and positivity.

The night was a success — it brought together over 70 youth from a variety of backgrounds and brought awareness to the Howick Youth Council and our goals. All our participants got involved, following along to the Jump Jam moves with fond memories of their primary school days.

People engaged: 70





Beach Clean-up



Jump the Jam Away





# Team 4

Yang Fan Yun (team lead), Joyce Chan, Hussein Al-Rufaie, Helen Pahulu, and Julia Tenedero

## First Aid Course

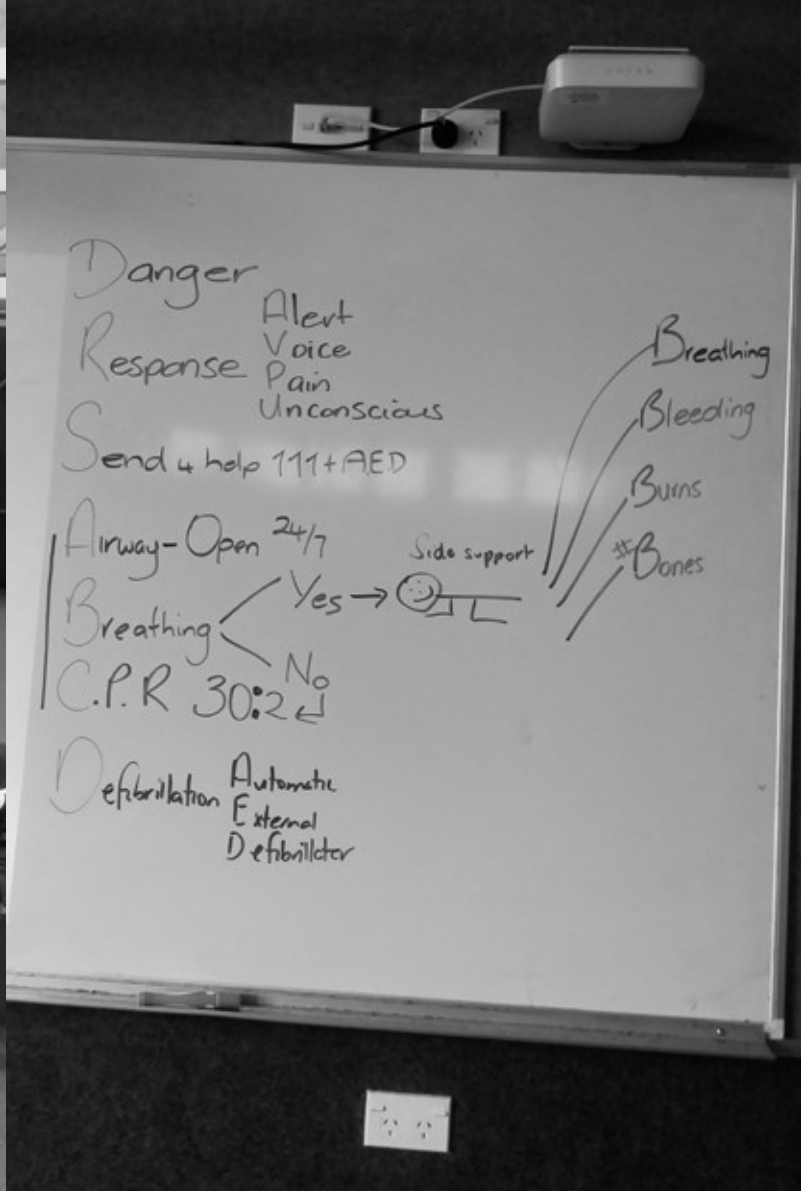
Focus Area: Youth involvement and community awareness of health and wellbeing, youth are prepared for their futures

Our goal was to provide young leaders with a first aid course to better equip our community with life-saving first aid skills. We also recognised the value of having a first aid qualification when looking for employment.

20 young people from each of the 9 secondary schools in the Howick Local Board area completed an 8-hour St John's Stage 1 First Aid workshop. The course increased their confidence in recognising and treating everything from common injuries to life-threatening medical emergencies. It also gave them skills to offer vital assistance and CPR.

First Aid Qualified Young People: 20





# Looking ahead to 2019

## **A word from Jack Collins and Ben Fraser**

2019 Chairperson and Deputy  
Chairperson of the Howick  
Youth Council

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2018 has been an incredibly successful year for the Howick Youth Council — much of which is owed to this year's Leadership Team, ably lead by our chair Zachary Wong. Many thanks for their service and support.

As we look forward to 2019, we see many opportunities for the Howick Youth Council to flourish. We are excited to welcome our new members who are set to become leaders in the community. We look forward to helping them succeed.

The new leadership team is dedicated to growing the Howick Youth Council's presence through a focus on our new key areas: represent, develop and connect. As we build on the groundwork of 2018, it is our hope that



our efforts will lift recurring projects such as the Howick Youth Summit and Arts Showcase as well as introduce exciting new projects inspired by our members.

We are excited for the opportunities that 2019 will bring and appreciate the ongoing and significant support of the Howick Local Board in facilitating opportunities for rangitahi in the community.

We look forward to 2019.

Many thanks,  
Jack and Ben





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Howick  
Youth Council